

## Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

RSR-01 /101 W

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O R 151000Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4425

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISTANBUL 2647

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, TU

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT SIXTH FLEET SHIPS TO ISTANBUL

REF: ANKARA 6458

1. WE ANTICIPATE NO RPT NO PARTICULAR DIFFICULTIES FOR US SHIPS PER SE IN PROPOSED VISIT ISTANBUL FROM SEPT 30 TO OCT 5. HOWEVER, AS EMB AWARE, TIMING IS LESS THAN PROPITIOUS SINCE IT OCCURS ONLY TWO WEEKS PRIOR TO ELECTIONS AND FOLLOWING RASH OF OTHER SIXTH FLEET SHIP VISITS HERE THIS SUMMER. WE BELIEVE THERE IS SERIOUS QUESTION AS TO WHETHER VISIT BY FLAG SHIP AND USS WHITNEY WITH ALMOST 1500 PERSONNEL ABOARD MAY NOT BE OVERLOADING THE CIRCUIT BOTH IN POLITICAL SENSE AND IN TERMS OUR ABILITY PROVIDE NECESSARY SUPPORT SERVICES.

2. AS EMB ALSO AWARE, THERE IS GREAT LIKELIHOOD THAT MARTIAL LAW WILL HAVE EXPIRED BY TIME OF PROPOSED VISIT. WHILE WE DO NOT RPT NOT ANTICIPATE GENERAL SECURITY SITUATION WILL CHANGE DRAMATICALLY OVERNIGHT, WE CANNOT EXCLUDE POSSIBILITY THAT DISSIDENT ELEMENTS MIGHT ATTEMPT SEIZE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MOUNT SOME TYPE OF PROTEST ACTIVITY. WE  
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ALSO NOTE THAT VISIT NOW SCHEDULED FOR SIX-DAY PERIOD.

IF EMB DECIDES ON BALANCE THAT VISIT SHOULD BE APPROVED,  
WE WOULD SUGGEST AT MINIMUM THAT IT BE REDUCED TO 3 OR 4 DAYS  
AND THAT ADVANCE LIAISON PARTY PLAN ARRIVE MINIMUM OF 4  
WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE OF SHIP ARRIVAL.

3. AS TO OFFER OF SIXTH FLEET MUSIC SHOW, WE DO NOT RPT  
NOT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL AT THIS TIME. TIMING AND  
SECURITY FACTORS NOTED ABOVE APPLY EVEN MORE STRONGLY IN  
THIS CASE. DURING VISIT USS INDEPENDENCE WE RAISED WITH  
GENERAL TURUN POSSIBILITY OF PUBLIC PERFORMANCE BY SMALL  
BAND FROM CARRIER. HE WAS ADAMANT IN REFUSAL, STATING THAT  
POSSIBILITY OF UNDESIRABLE INCIDENT JUST TOO GREAT. MORE-  
OVER, WE BELIEVE PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVANTAGE OF SUCH SHOW  
AT THIS TIME WOULD BE MINIMAL AT BEST AND WOULD REQUIRE  
ADMINISTRATIVE AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT WHICH, GIVEN GREAT  
TURNOVER OF CONGEN PERSONNEL THIS SUMMER AND EVEN HEAVIER  
THAN USUAL FLOOD OF VIP VISITORS, WE WOULD BE UNABLE  
PROVIDE.  
MACE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 15 AUG 1973  
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